

# SPRAGUE ELECTRIC

## VICTORY

# Log

BY SPRAGUE EMPLOYEES *and* FOR SPRAGUE EMPLOYEES

Volume VIII

SPRAGUE ELECTRIC VICTORY LOG, DECEMBER 22, 1945

Number 10



## A Merry Christmas . .

With this Yuletide issue of the Log, the reporters and editors again wish all Sprague employees a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year for the eighth successive year... This year may you find new strength and happiness in the old hymns and carols; in the laughter of little children; in the gaiety of Christmas throngs; and in the common adoration and thanksgiving of a people weary of war and desirous of peace. This coming year let us resolve to promote peace and understanding... in the home, the neighborhood, the shop, the city, state and nation... and thus throughout the world, -- until truly there is

"Peace On Earth -- Good Will Toward Men"



### *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

*It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth,  
To touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
From heaven's all gracious King";  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.*

*For lo! the days are hast'ning on,  
By prophets seen of old,  
When with the ever circling years,  
Shall come the time foretold,  
When the new heav'n and earth shall own  
The Prince of Peace their King,  
And the whole world send back the song  
Which now the angels sing.*



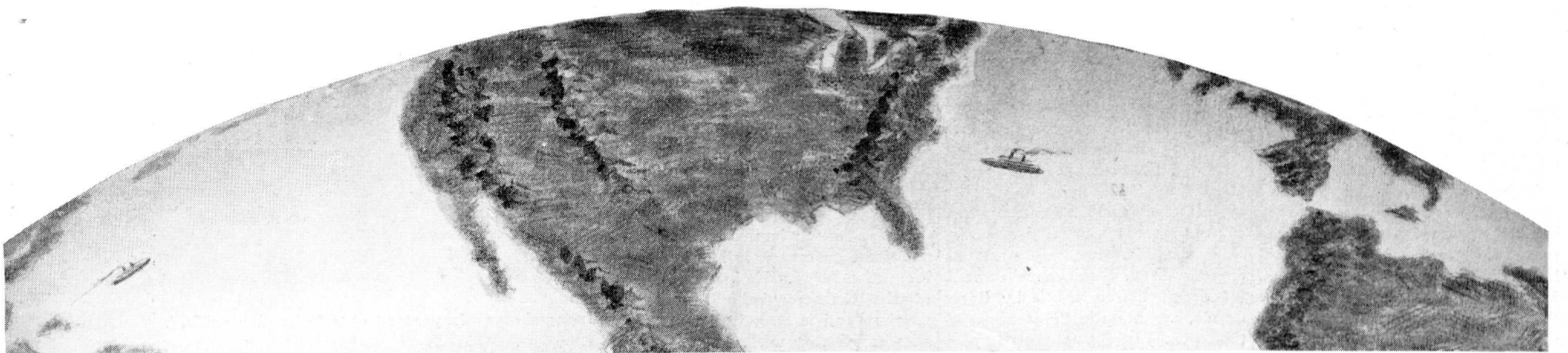
May good fortune attend your loved ones still in the Armed Services here or abroad. May they and the other millions still in service be brought safely home to their families and friends... Let us pray at this Christmas Season for those whose sons and daughters laid down their lives for their country... and for those who, maimed or broken in body, mind or spirit, may look in dark despair to the life left for them on this earth... In our joyous Christmas hours and days let us not forget that by their sacrifice and suffering we can this year once more celebrate these Holidays in the old manner.



### *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him, Born the King of  
angels;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ, the Lord.*

*Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
O Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:  
Glory to God in the highest;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ, the Lord.*



# SPRAGUE ELECTRIC VICTORY Log

BY SPRAGUE EMPLOYEES and FOR SPRAGUE EMPLOYEES

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"Every Sprague Worker an Assistant Reporter."

Vol. VIII

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No. 10

## RADAR DURING THE WAR



Working on information received by the radar's electric eye in the radar plot room. Official Navy Photo

(This is the second of a series of articles concerning Radar. The first, appearing in the last LOG, was entitled: Radar in 1911. A third, to come, will give some account of the future uses of radar.)

Radar was no secret to our enemies, and many of them had radar equipment ready before their entry into the war. The United States was no exception, and on December 7, 1941 our Army had 580 sets on hand, and it was the SCR-270 which gave warning of the impending attack on Pearl Harbor.

The primary importance of radar in war is to give knowledge of the enemy's activity. Radar does this by exploring the region of battle with a directed beam of radio energy and detecting the echoes which arise when the beam encounters an enemy target. To be of value, targets must be detected at great distances to give adequate warning of the enemy's approach, and must transmit at the highest possible power and receive the echoes with the most sensitive possible receiver.

Radar transmitters customarily have peak power output in the tens or hundreds of kilowatts and the effectiveness of this power is increased several hundred times by directive antennas. However, the power received back from the target at the maximum range at which the target is detectable is

measured in micromicrowatts, or roughly, a millionth of a millionth of a millionth of the power transmitted. Therefore, to be effective, radar demanded the most advanced techniques that our radio scientists and engineers could develop. And in 1937 apparatus was set up for airplane-detection work, with marked success. At that time, it was possible to detect planes and track them at distances as far away as 11 miles.

In 1938, work was begun on the SCR-270 (mentioned before) which was used for long distance warning against aircraft. To obtain long range, the highest possible transmitter power and a large antenna having high power gain, were required. Many improvements to this type were added, so now, after five years of use, the SCR-270 is still standard equipment. One type is trailer mounted, and with its associated trucks, can be moved over roads and set up quickly wherever needed. Another type was developed for fixing locations in permanent buildings. The reliable range of these SCR-270's is 120 miles on bomber aircraft targets and 75 miles on fighters. The distance to the aircraft is accurately indicated to two miles, and its direction of travel to about 4 degrees.

(Condensed from article by Roger Colton, appearing in "Proceedings of the I.R.E.")



## Season's Greetings - - To Servicemen and Women

### Meets Former Williams Chaplain Tokyo, Japan

Dear Miss Owen:

Here is some good news! I'm on my way home! I am in good health... couldn't feel any better. Am writing this letter in the Tokyo Red Cross, which was formerly the Bankers Club. The best Red Cross building I have seen so far.

We left Cebu, P. I., September 23rd, arrived at Hokkaido, Japan, October 4th. On the way over, we ran into two typhoons, the first was the worst. The food on the ship was very good.

I met Chaplain Grant A. Noble on the ship. We had a nice long talk. He was formerly the chaplain at Williams College. We had all kinds of recreation on the ship with Chaplain Noble in charge. All the men on the ship liked him. This was the only ship that we were ever on that had all this recreation. The only thing that we didn't like about this ship was that we had to be down to our quarters by 9 P.M.

### No Shooting, Now

We landed at the city of Hokodate, Japan. This was one landing that we all liked—for there wasn't any shooting. This landing was made like a regular invasion force. We spent our first two nights at Hokodate College of Fishery, then moved to a girls' college, which hasn't been in use since before the war. Boy, we sure had a lot of work to do for it was damaged. It was a very, very cold place, no stoves. All the women wear overalls or trousers to keep warm, and they carry their babies on their backs when they work. The women work just as hard as the men.

There are about 7,000 men here waiting for ships to bring them home. I am stationed in a big garage with 222 other men, and boy it is cold! Half of the windows are out and there are no stoves. We just about freeze at night. The boys build a huge fire outside and they group around it until one and two in the morning to keep warm. It was a lot warmer sleeping in a fox hole.

### Saw Emperor's Famous Horse

I have been to Tokyo three times. Boy, from Honsby to Tokyo it is a wreck, everything is leveled to the ground. Tokyo sure is a mess.

Armistice Day I went to Tokyo Meiji Shrine Stadium and saw the Rodeo. It was all G.I. and very good. I saw Lt. "Dick" Ryan, the first American to ride Emperor Hirohito's famous white horse, Halsushimo (First Frost). There were about 50,000 soldiers, some nurses and Japanese women there.

While I was at Tokyo I saw the Emperor's palace and General MacArthur and where he stayed. The Japanese people were good to us.

Well, Miss Owen it is time to cut so I will sign off now. Here's hoping I will be home for Xmas. So until I see you and the rest of my friends at the plant, good luck and God bless all.  
Peter Maruco

### SENDS GREETINGS



Pvt. Norbert Tanguay at Ft. Sill, Okla., sends greetings and says, "This is what we looked like after a couple of months of service." Norbert was formerly in the Carpenter Shop, Maintenance Dept.

### Peace on Earth

The last bugle note has sounded  
Over all the world.  
Again where Freedom once abounded  
Are Freedom's flags unfurled.

Gone is the sound of marching feet,  
The ruthless conqueror;  
Freedom and justice are complete  
And now, "Excelsior."

Turn up your eyes, your mind, your heart,  
It is the Christmastide;  
Give thanks that having done our part,  
The battle justified.

Beneath tomorrow's brilliant sun  
All men everywhere  
May live in union, as one,  
And God's blessings share.

"Merry Christmas" this year is true  
As never heretofore,  
Lift up your heart, it is your due,  
For there is war no more.

### Season's Greetings from Berlin

Michael Sarkis, formerly of the Paper Assembly Department sends Christmas greetings to all his Brown Street friends, from Berlin, Germany.

### Season's Greetings To All

Fort Sill, Okla.  
November 24, 1945

Dear Friends:

Just a line to let you know I received two editions of the Log which I look forward to eagerly. You can't imagine how happy it makes a fellow, to read and see pictures about the swellest plant I ever worked in and to read about the buddies I worked with.

Here is a photo of me and I wish you would please give it to my former boss, Clarence Chilson, so he can show it to the best gang of men I ever worked with. Thank you ever so much.

Thanks very much for the Log. A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Sincerely yours,

Pvt. Norbert T. Tanguay

### Send Trophies

Ray Muhar, formerly of Production Scheduling Department, and Casimer Gliwiski, formerly of Paper Assembly, have sent some interesting trophies of war to Walter Rohane. Ray who is stationed in Tokyo, sent two Jap rifles and aviator goggles. Ray wishes to be remembered to all in his old department, and states that his hopes of getting home for Christmas are becoming increasingly slim. Casimer, who sent fighting equipment from Germany, has arrived in this country almost as soon as his trophies. It is interesting to note the superiority of German-made equipment over that of the Japs.

### Eager To See Friends

Camp Croft, So. Carolina  
November 28, 1945

Dear Sir:

This letter is to inform you that my military address has been changed to the one which appears above. I am now working in a Headquarters Company, which takes care of all the military affairs of this Camp. I am a clerk typist and I like my job very well. It sure is funny to go from an Infantryman to an office worker and still be in the Infantry! There is a great shortage of clerks these days, and I was fortunate that I was chosen to be one. I attended Clerk School in this Camp and I passed all my subjects with flying colors. It is for that reason that I was given this job in Headquarters.

I expect to be home on or about the 20th of January and I will be looking forward to greeting some of my old Sprague co-workers. May they keep up the good work—the war is over—but we can't stop now.

Thanking you very much for your interest, and for sending me the Log so regularly, I remain, a former Sprague employee,

Joseph Cresimbini

### Vice Presidents Appointed

Dr. Preston Robinson, Director of Research, and Mr. Julian Sprague, head of the Application Engineering Department, were named Vice-Presidents of the Sprague Electric Company.

Dr. Robinson has been with the Company since 1929, and has directed and coordinated the work of the Company's research and engineering staff, and has made extensive studies in equilibria at high temperatures, the metallurgy of tin, thermodynamics and dielectrics.

Mr. Julian Sprague, brother of R. C. Sprague, president of the company, has been actively connected with the firm since 1926, when he was one of the original group of four employees.

During the war he was appointed a consultant on capacitors by the War Production Board. He has represented the Company in industry-wide meetings and is actively engaged in sales engineering work.



Engaged on an important detail of radar work.

Official Navy Photo





## MAJOR THANKS SPRAGUE EMPLOYEES



Lovell General Hospital  
Fort Devens, Massachusetts

Miss Etta Owen  
Sprague Electric Co.  
Dear Miss Owen:

We were most pleasantly surprised today upon the receipt of some very beautiful knitted extremity coverings and hasten to send thanks in behalf of the many patients who we are sure will be deeply grateful to the employees for this kindness.

Hoping that the Christmas Season will be as happy for them as it will be for our patients as a result of their many gifts. I am

Sincerely yours,  
Sidney Licht, Major, M.C.

### Welcome to:

**Robert M. Blakeney**, who was in the Naval Air Training Corps in the summer of 1943, and held a commission in the Marines as a lieutenant in 1944, was discharged this November. He comes to the Laboratory as an assistant to Mr. Allison on high frequency measurements.

Mr. Blakeney is married, and lives in Williamstown with his wife and young daughter. He is a Williams College man. It is interesting to note that his father, Rev. R. B. Blakeney, former pastor of the Williamstown Congregational Church has just received his discharge this November at about the same time that his son did. Rev. Blakeney was a chaplain in the Service.

**Everett Barton**, discharged from the Navy in November, has joined Earl Burke's staff as draftsman. He graduated from Massachusetts State College in '42, majoring in Engineering. He received his commission as a lieutenant in Naval Aviation and saw action in England and Iceland.

Mr. Barton, after his discharge, decided to make North Adams his home, and has brought his wife and 16 months old son to live here, in the Berkshire Hills.

### Marriage

**FORTINI - HILDRENBANDT**  
Miss Georgianna M. Hildrenbrandt of Rome, N. Y. and John E. Fortini were married Saturday, November 10, 1945 at Rome, N. Y. John was employed in the Dry Test Department before entering the service. He and his bride are to reside in North Adams, Mass.

### 25 Years Wedded

Ida Miller and her husband Thomas quietly observed their 25th wedding anniversary, November 25, 1945. Their many friends remembered them with cards, flowers and gifts in honor of the day. Ida is employed in the Western Electric Department.

### BIRTHS

**DAUGHTER**—A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Powers, Saturday, December 1, 1945. Dad is the Division Superintendent of the Resistor Department.

**DAUGHTER**—A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Wimpenny, Thursday, November 29, 1945. Dad is employed in the Industrial Oils Department.

**DAUGHTER**: A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Stanton, Tuesday, December 11, 1945. Dad is employed in the Industrial Oils Department.

### EMPLOYEES GIFT REACHES LOVELL HOSPITAL

The Committee of the Lovell General Hospital Fund are happy to report that the combination radio and record player has been received and sent to the Sprague Electric Room at the hospital. The committee are sure this machine will play a major part in helping to make the holiday season a merry one for the patients able to visit the room.

At this time sincere thanks is extended to the many girls who so generously

gave of their spare time to knitting crutch protectors and amputee socks for the patients at Lovell. To date the committee has sent to the hospital 25 crutch protectors and 18 amputee socks from the employees of the Sprague Electric Company. That the boys and the heroic work they did in World War II is not forgotten is exemplified in the splendid co-operation the committee has received from the employees.

### 'Twas THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS . . .



Cynthia Jane Crosier falls asleep while waiting for Santa, and her daddy, Fred, of Engineering Specs, takes the opportunity to make this lovely picture.

### ALMOST TWO THOUSAND YEARS AGO - -

Almost two thousand years ago, the Prince of Peace was born.

And now, two thousand years afterwards, the principle of **PEACE ON EARTH -- GOOD WILL TO MEN** still seems to be unattainable, yet remains our best solution if we wish to live in the complex world we have created, with its threat of world destruction by forces such as the atomic bomb.

Now, after the close of a second world war, civil strife wracks the nations of this globe. This is the second time we have waged a war to end all wars. Today, the teachings of the Prince of Peace on brotherly love, charity, and faith are obscured by senseless slaughter and greed. And yet -- we believe in those principles, loudly denouncing the idiocy of war.

### TASK RESTS WITH EACH INDIVIDUAL

It is inconceivable that peoples of the earth will choose atomic annihilation rather than join in a pact for permanent peace. Such a task rests with each of us -- not alone with nations and their leaders. Let us broaden our horizons to include all nations, and let us strive daily for a better understanding and **GOOD WILL** in our contacts with our fellowmen.

### Office Chatter

By Priscilla Windover

The Payroll Department said goodbye to a real friend recently. Mrs. Raymond Crosier ("Fran", to us) has left the Sprague Electric Company after 15 years of service. Her husband, Chief Engineer Raymond J. Crosier is home on terminal leave and is to be discharged in January.

The office girls presented her with a wristwatch and I'm sure they meant it when they wrote on her farewell card, "Roses are red, violets are blue, And so are we!"

**Second Honeymooners:** Mr. and Mrs. William Senecal (Marion of Payroll), Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wandrei (Wanda of Cost).

**Overheard in the Payroll Department**—Betty Alderman: "I heard that mistletoe was going to be scarce this year so

this summer, I hunted and found some, but it didn't keep. It wilted!"

.....Ruth Brown in her naive manner; "Too bad, I kept mine in the refrigerator.".....Have you seen the new fellow in the Factory Engineering Department? Yea, but don't get any ideas, girls. He is married and a daddy.....I see Marion Pinsonnault has assumed her new duties as stenographer in the Production Planning Department.....Did you know "Lil" Clermont the switchboard operator is home from the hospital? Well, guess I better get going.

**First Skier:** "What was that, a comet?"

**Second Skier:** "No, that was Josephine "Flash" Lamberti. Well known skier, famous in ski circles. I say in circles, 'cause that is the way she skis."

## Mystery of Lost Ring Makes Front Page Headlines

By Hazel Goodale

The Latest G. I. newstory hinges around the efforts of Rita Bishop of Engineering Specifications, and starts a high school ring found on the Beach of Leyte on its Final Journey Home.

While running between bases of a recreation center baseball diamond on the beach of Leyte, Philippine Islands, Eugene A. LaPine, Seaman first class, kicked something bright out of the sands. Stooping to pick it up, he found it to be a high school ring. He put it in his duffle bag with his personal belongings, and almost forgot about it.

But the day came when he was given leave to come home, and ring and duffle bag made the journey back to North Adams. Upon showing the ring to his family, his sister Rita remarked there must be a story in connection with it, which could be learned if a search were made for the owner. Perhaps some boy's mother or sweetheart would cherish the ring as a memento.

### Decipher Letters

Rita examined the ring carefully—it was badly worn—and with the help of a microscope and suggestions of friends, could make out the letters **K E N S — T O N**. Knowing that there was a town of Kensington in Connecticut, she addressed a letter to the school there, describing the ring. The Superintendent of the school at Kensington answered, saying the ring was not theirs. However, he too had become interested in the ring and suggested a school at Kensington, Penna.

### High School Principal Aids

Following this lead, she wrote to the Pennsylvania school and received the following reply:

November 21, 1945

Dear Mrs. Bishop:

Your letter of November 19 arrived today. This is certainly a very interesting letter and I want to commend you for the interest you have taken in trying to locate the owner of this ring. We have checked our records and believe we have located the owner of this ring. She is a girl by the name of Betty Ruth Callendar who graduated from this high school in the Class of 1944. She is now enrolled in college at the University of Pittsburgh and we are very sure it is her ring as her sister, who is now a student in this school, informed me that she had given the ring to a boy by the name of James Yates who was in Service in the Pacific area. Perhaps your brother may have met him at some time over there but would not have known, of course, that the ring was his—or lost by him. At any rate, if you will forward the ring to me I shall be glad to return it to Betty Callendar for there is no doubt that it belongs to her. I shall also recommend that she pay you whatever postage cost you may incur in mailing.

Your letter is one of the most interesting letters to come to my attention. We have had many very interesting letters regarding the boys from this high school who are in Service.

Again, I want to thank you and commend you for your effort in locating the owner of this ring. Believe me, I appreciate your kindness and thank you for writing.

Sincerely yours,

H. B. Weaver  
High School Principal

### Story Appears in Many Papers

Rita forwarded the ring, and Betty Callendar of Kensington, Penna. was overjoyed at finding it in her possession. But she was mostly overjoyed, because Yoeman James Yates came back from the Pacific area, safe and well. His trip home was more direct than that of the ring and so he got there first! The story of the return

of the lost ring has spread like wild fire. It has appeared in the New Britain Herald and recently Rita received a copy of the story which appeared in the Pittsburgh Post Gazette on December 3rd. A second copy of the same story was clipped by a North Adams boy now in Steubenville, Ohio and he has sent it home to his mother, Mrs. Grace Banks, who in turn forwarded it to Rita.

We congratulate you, Rita, on the success which your effort has brought and hope the ring will continue to bring good luck to Betty and Jimmy.

### Engagements

The engagement of Miss Shirley Gorman of the Block Annex Department has been announced to Russell Durant. The wedding will take place in January.

Marriage intentions have been announced of Miss Marguerite Miller of the Dry Test Department and Bernard LaCasse. No date has been set for the wedding.

The engagement of Miss Caroline Champney to Gunner's Mate 3-c James G. Moon USNR has been announced. The wedding is to take place soon. Caroline is employed in the Boxing Department.

Wedding bells will ring for Miss Florence Morin and Paul Lefebvre on February 9. Florence is employed in the P.A.A. Department at Brown Street.

Miss Mildred M. Embry's engagement to Raymond S. Broullett has been announced. No date has been set for the wedding. Mildred is employed in the Bathtub Assembly Department.



Edward and Frederick Nazzewski think up some new brand of mischief, but promise to be good just around Christmas. "Eddie", 2 years, and "Freddie", 3 years, are sons of "Mat" of Marshall Street Laboratory.



Sandra Ellen Nazzewski lights the candles for her second birthday cake, while Eddie Nazzewski and Judy Darling direct the procedure. Sandra is the daughter of "Zig" foreman of the Plating Department.